



## **Florida House of Representatives**

### **HOUSE MAJORITY OFFICE**

402 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, Florida  
32399-1300

**Adam Hasner**  
Majority Leader

322 The Capitol  
(850) 488-1993

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**CONTACT: Joseph Agostini**  
(850) 488-9890

## **MCKEEL MEASURE CALLS FOR ENDING OFFSHORE DRILLING MORATORIUM IN GULF OF MEXICO**

*~Measure Creates Revenue Stream for Florida, Enhances Role in National Energy Security Matters~*

**TALLAHASSEE, FL** - The House General Government Policy Council today approved House Memorial (HM) 563 by Representative Seth McKeel (R-Lakeland). The legislation calls on the United States Congress to support the expedited removal of the moratorium prohibiting exploration and production of domestic supplies of oil and natural gas in federal waters surrounding Florida, and to include Florida in the revenue sharing resulting from the production of these valuable resources. He released the following statement:

"It's time for Florida to join the ranks as a Gulf Coast producing state. The cost and stability of energy is one of the greatest hurdles we face," stated Representative McKeel. "By urging Congress to take action, we are sending a message to Washington that we should be the ones to benefit from the production of energy in our own waters."

Currently, the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) supplies more than 15 percent of the country's natural gas production, more than 25 percent of total domestic oil production and the offshore areas of the United States are thought to contain the majority of our future oil and gas resources. "We are striving to create a comprehensive energy policy for the future of our state, and any rational policy should include the use of our own resources," concluded McKeel.

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